Calcoin News

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE

California State Numismatic Association

CONTENTS

San Francisco Convention Notes ..... Page 2
34 Exhibitors Use 64 Cases 5
San Bernardino Club Gives Membership Cards 6
From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer 7
Who's Who in California Numismatics 8
San Francisco Mint History 9
Convention Pictures 10
California Club News, Views and Whos 15
Auction Sale Sets New Records 20

Volume 8, Number 3

MAY, 1954

San Francisco Convention Notes

The 14th semi-annual convention of the California State Numismatic Assn. was held April 22-25 at the Hotel Bellevue, San Franeiseo, with the Paeific Coast Numismatie Soeiety as host.

Registration totaled 188. The Saturday banquet was attended by 164 persons, the Sunday luncheon by 101.

NUMISMATIC FORUM

Speakers at the forum Friday evening were Abe Kosoff, Beverly Hills, and Oleg Maslenkov, assoeiate professor of Slavie languages at the University of California, Berkeley.

Kosoff gave highlights of his trip enroute to the Farouk sale in Cairo, Egypt, and of the sale itself. He described stops in London, Amsterdam, Switzerland, and Rome. Although foggy, Amsterdam was said to be the most charming place of all. The Swiss, hc said, have the advantage in moncy matters of being able to serve as brokcrs, sinee they can transfer moneys of the various nations. More niee Roman coins were seen by Kosoff in England and France than in Rome.

For this sale, English, French and Italian money was loosened up, which accounts at least in part for the good prices realized, the speaker said. This was the second time since the World War that the English could buy coins freely outside their country.

In Cairo, about a week was spent in looking at eoins, eaeh display section being supervised by a different person. Many coins, some rarities, were damaged by mishandling after their aequisition, the speaker stated, adding that many eopper eoins had a "sickening pink" look. There were many counterfeits in the collection.

Egyptian regulations were time-consuming, and among other things, required a 5 per cent sureharge tax stamp on eaeh purchase and a contract for each lot.

The Roman bars were withdrawn from the sale and plaeed in the Egyptian museum. The 1933 U.S. double eagle also was withdrawn. The nine pieces in eirculation never were authorized by the U.S. government for release, aeeording to Kosoff.

About $650,000 was realized from coins and $115,000 from stamps at the sale. The St. Gaudens $20 in high relief brought $3200, a record for a public sale. Each of three U.S. pioneer gold bars purchased by the Numismatic Gallery is unique.

The auctioneer was "terrifie", Kosoff said, and spoke five languages fluently. Dealers plaeed the bids, as is the eustom in England.

Professor Maslenkov's speech, "A Bird's-Eye View of Russian History as Reflected by the Coins of That Country", will be printed in **Calcoin News.**

The speakers were introduced by David Redfield, forum chairman.

SATURDAY BANQUET

Ralph A. Mitehell was master of eeremonies at the banquet. He read a wire from Sam Koeppel, Los Angeles, wishing "success to the convention", and a letter from A. E. Bebee, Omaha, Nebr., sending his regrets at not being able to attend. Mitchell announeed that a wire had been sent to Lew Reagan, ANA general seeretary, wishing him speedy recovery from his recent illness.

Dr. N. A. Bowers, CSNA president, introduced those besides himself seated at the head table: Dr. J. Hewitt Judd, ANA president; Ross P. Buell, San Franeisco Mint superintendent; Lesley Lodge, PCNS president and eonvention general ehairman; Robert G. MeArthur, CSNA seeretary-treasurer; Ralph A. Mitchell, CSNA direetor; Leonel C. Panosh, CSNA direetor and first vice-president, ANA; Dr. Calvert Emmons, CSNA direetor; John E. Ohls, assistant eonvention and awards chairman; and Charles V. Kappen, CSNA direetor and editor, **Calcoin News.**

Out-of-staters, other than those at the head table, were introduced by Ralph Mitehell. These ineluded Burton Saxton, business manager of **The Numismatist,** Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Benjamin Staek, New York City; Art Kagin, Des Moines, Iowa; B. D. Allumbaugh, Portland, Ore.; Chris and Haven Petersen, Chehalis, Wash.; Norman Sehultz, Salt Lake City,

Utah; and Al Crites, Reno, Nev. Chris Petersen is an ANA director. Mitchell said all 19 California coin clubs were represented at the convention.

Ken Allen, in charge of entertainment, presented members of the Alameda Little Theater group. Barbara Schmidt and Tony Riggio sang several solos; Roger Bullock gave an original presentation of a tone poem on the piano; and Harrison Bedell made a humorous treasurer's report on furnace repairs at Jenny Lind Hall, meeting place of the East Bay Coin Club. "Riggio," Allen said, "is following in the footsteps of Gene Austin."

John Ohls presented exhibit awards, listed elsewhere in this magazine.

Chris Petersen reported that Mrs. D. Dee DeNise, ANA librarian, sent her regrets at not being able to come because of increased library participation by ANA members.

SUNDAY LUNCHEON

Speakers at the luncheon were Leonel C. Panosh, San Diego, and Dr. Calvert L. Emmons, Ontario. Panosh explained the five points used by the Awards committee in determining winners. Dr. Emmons recounted the beginnings and early history of the CSNA. He also called for all those who plan to attend the fall convention at the Old Mission Inn, Riverside, Oct. 7-10, to write their intentions to Herb Bergen, general chairman. He spoke of entertainment facilities at the Inn, and said a tour is planned through its caverns and wine cellars.

A songfest was led by Ken Allen, with Mrs. Allen at the piano.

Dr. Bowers presented a coin, as the start of a collection, to Loretta Pearl Holm, new member of the Walter Holm family. Loretta became a member of the CSNA at the age of 23 days. This reminds us of Colleen McCormac, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kabealo, who became a member at birth.

Dr. Bowers reviewed requisites for a successful convention, which he said are skillful planning, hundreds of unselfish man hours of work, and hundreds of dollars. He complimented Les Lodge, general chairman, and John E. Ohls and Paul Snedaker, assistant general chairmen, for their fine work.

Lodge, in turn, presented chairmen of his various committees and other workers: Ken Allen, Mrs. Eula Jakobsen, Erich Werling, Mrs. Carol Snedaker, Mrs. Bettie Duncan, Dave Redfield, Frank Galvin, Roy Hill, Robert G. McArthur, Rudy Gjurovich, Leo Young, Earl Parker, Ralph A. Mitchell, Kurt Loret, Milton Strauch, and Dennis Olswang.

Dr. Bruce Wallace announced that 15 per cent of the San Diego members were presented and introduced Clive Foss, 14, junior vice-president. He said Clive is compiling a checklist of Roman coins.

Dennis Olswang and Frank Galvin won the guessing contest by stating the exact number (777) of cents in a jar. Olena Nelson was third.

NEW RECORD FOR BOURSE

Last year the May issue of **Calcoin News** published a list of 18 dealers who had cooperated in the April convention and had shown a friendly spirit toward the organization. Members were urged to support those who support CSNA.

This April the list was increased to 25 bourse dealers, an all-time high, and we welcome an opportunity to say a good word for the dealers whose goodwill, friendly cooperation and helpfulness bring encouragement to those endeavoring to make the CSNA stronger.

Bourse dealers at San Francisco were Del Bassetti, San Luis Obispo; Karl Brainard, Santa Monica; Al Crites, Reno, Nev.; Eureka Coin Shop, San Francisco; Edward H. Fish, Fresno; East Bay Coin Shop, Oakland; Frank X. Galvin, Oakland; Edward Gans, Berkeley; Godbey's, Oakland; Frank P. Hernandez, El Cajon; Hollinbeck Coin Co., Des Moines, Iowa.

Imperial Coin Co., New York City; A. G. K. Jakobsen, Daly City; W. E. Johnson, Santa Barbara; Charles V. Jones, Los Angeles; Irving Knickerbocker, San Diego; Kenneth Lee, Glendale; Numismatic Gallery, Beverly Hills.

Earl A. Parker, San Francisco; Charles N. Peters, Alameda; D. L. Redmond, Emeryville; William Sexton, Santa Maria; John Skubis, San Francisco; Dr. Bruce Wallace, San Diego; and Leo Young, Lockeford.

Support the dealers who support CSNA.

ALL OFFICERS REELECTED

All incumbent officers and directors of the CSNA were reelected for another year. These include Dr. N. A. Bowers, Atherton, president; Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, Brea, vice-president; Robert G. McArthur, Oakland, secretary-treasurer; Stewart J. Bingham, Claremont, librarian-curator; and Dr. Calvert L. Emmons, Ontario; Leonel C. Panosh, San Diego; Ralph A. Mitchell, Palo Alto; Herb Bergen, Fullerton; and Charles V. Kappen, San Jose, directors.

ADOPT 8 RESOLUTIONS

Chris M. Petersen, Resolutions committee chairman, presented eight resolutions, all adopted by the association. Recognized and thanked for their work were the women's entertainment and other convention committees; the Bellevue Hotel and its management; the registration workers; the coin dealers who contributed so substantially to its success; the exhibitors; officers and directors of the CSNA; and all others who contributed in any way to the convention. Other members of the Resolutions committee were Fred E. Draper and David Redfield.

NEW EXHIBIT CASES

It was announced by R. G. McArthur, secretary-treasurer, that $310 has been expended for 31 newly-constructed exhibit cases. Erich Werling was extended a vote of thanks for his time and work spent on the cases.

John E. Ohls suggested that a CSNA convention banner be prepared that can be placed on an easel or folding stand at the registration desk.

DEALERS DONATE PRIZES

Twenty-eight door prizes, contributed by 26 dealers, were presented during banquet and luncheon. Donations were made by A. E. Bebee, Omaha, Nebr.; Joe Block, Los Angeles; Karl Brainard, Santa Monica; Albert Crites, Reno, Nev.; Ed Fish, Fresno; Ed Fogler, East Bay Coin Shop, Oakland; Frank Galvin, Oakland.

Edward Gans, Berkeley; Godbey's, Oakland; Frank Hernandez, El Cajon; A. G. K. Jakobsen, Daly City; William E. Johnson, Santa Barbara; Charles Jones, Los Angeles; Art Kagin, Hollinbeck Coin Co., Des Moines, Iowa; Irving Knickerbocker, San Diego; A. Kosoff and Abner Kreisberg, Numismatic Gallery, Beverly Hills.

Kenneth Lee, Glendale; Earl A. Parker, San Francisco; Charles N. Peters, Alameda; Dan Redmond, Emeryville; William J. Sexton, Santa Maria; John Skubis, San Francisco; William Smith, Eureka Coin Shop, San Francisco; Benjamin Stack, Imperial Coin Co., New York City; Dr. Bruce Wallace, San Diego; and Leo Young, Lockeford.

FALL, 1954, CONVENTION

The Old Mission Inn, Riverside, will be headquarters for the next convention, Oct. 7-10. Herb Bergen, Fullerton, will be general chairman.

Leo A. Young, P.O. Box 115, Lockeford, has been awarded the auction. Consignments for the fall sale may be placed with him. Paid-up members of CSNA will be given a special rate on their consignments. Correspondence in regard to consignments is now invited by Young.

SPRING, 1955, CONVENTION

The spring, 1955, convention will be held at the Hotel Claremont in Berkeley, with the East Bay Coin Club, Oakland, as host.

HITCH-HIKES TO EXHIBIT

Cpl. Art Fogelberg, Ft. Ord, winner of the novice prize at Santa Rosa, went to considerable trouble to make a display at San Francisco. He hitch-hiked from Ft. Ord to his home in Utah and back to San Francisco in 2½ days. His coins were in Utah. Cpl. Fogelberg won first place in his division.

HERNANDEZ' BIRTHDAY

A cup cake bearing one candle was presented Friday to Frank P. Hernandez, El Cajon, by the Mesdames Ruby Lee, Irene Parker, and others, who sang "Happy Birthday" to climax the event.

Later the same evening, William J. Sexton picked up the tab for Chinese dinners honoring the El Cajon dealer. It is reliably reported that the tax alone amounted to $6.

TOM WARD ON VACATION

Thomas W. Ward, Fallbrook, left April 27 on a trip to Yosemite and the East. The "Hermit" plans to return to "Skunk Hollow" about the middle of May.

34 Exhibitors Use 64 Cases

Descriptions by Thomas W. Ward

KAPPEN, Maj. Charles V., San Jose: Coins of Formosa, well written up and illustrated with photos of Formosan scenes and a cast bronze relief map of the country; California numismatic literature. **Trophy for best-in-show; first award for specialized collection; second award for unlisted classification (literature).**

ALLEN, Ken P., Alameda: U.S. gold, including earliest issues and all commemoratives; pioneer gold including $50 and other Assay Office pieces; British gold. **(First award for U.S. gold.)**

FOGELBERG, Cpl. Arthur, Mt. Pleasant, Utah: U.S. types and minor coins. **(First award for U.S., Group A-4.)**

LORET, Kurt E., San Francisco: "Coins of the Bible", with explanations and maps. **(First award for ancient coins.)**

WERLING, Erich, Oakland: Annamese coins; gold and silver of John George I of Saxony, 1611-1656, including multiple crowns. **(First award for coins of more than one country.)**

YASINITSKY, S. G., San Francisco: Crosses and medals of Imperial Russia of the Order of St. George the Martyr. **(First award for medals and decorations.)**

BOYCE, Tom, San Jose: "Coinerama", coins of many nations, with flag of each nation; coins showing ships; British portrait coins. **(First award for juniors.)**

DRAPER, Fred E., Upland: U.S. gold types, complete, representing all mints. **(Second award for U.S. gold.)**

BRANDEBERRY, E. C., San Francisco: Commemorative gold, including both $50; commemorative half dollars. **(Second award for U.S. commemoratives.)**

COLE, Clifton C., Santa Rosa: U.S. type set, well written up. **(Second award for U.S., Group A-4.)**

HAWLEY, Stanley S., Berkeley: "The Beginnings of Western Coinage." Early Lydian and Greek, including Italy and Sicily, with map showing location of issues. **(Second award for ancient coins.)**

GUARNERA, Vincent, San Jose: "Around the World with Small Change." Small coins of many nations, each represented with flag; medieval and early modern silver. **(Second award for multiple countries.)**

OLSWANG, Dennis, San Francisco: Canadian rarities, including a rare 1858 cent (15 known), 1858 20-cent piece (only year), 1923 small cent, 1942 cent (two known with this variety of beaver), 1859 overdate cent, etc. **(Second award for specialized series.)**

STEELE, Col. Charles, Oakland: Colonial, Continental, and Confederate currency. **(Second award for paper money.)**

PANOSH, Mrs. Anna M., San Diego: U.S. and foreign medals and decorations, including a Congressional Medal of Honor. **(Second award for medals and decorations.)**

REYNOLDS, Richard, San Jose: Coins of historical persons and events. **(Second award for juniors.)**

SNEDAKER, Paul D., San Francisco: U.S. cent types, including the Feuchtwanger; series of Indian cents. **(Third award for U.S., Group A-4.)**

WARD, Thomas W., Fallbrook: "Roman Religion on Coins." Pictures of gods, goddesses, and other mythical figures and fabulous monsters. **(Third award for ancient coins.)**

STRAUCH, Milton, Daly City: Coins of historical interest, such as of Maximilian, Mexico; Netherlands siege pieces; coins of Luxemburg. **(Third award for multiple countries.)**

RITCHIE, Alexander W., Berkeley: Chinese amulets and charms, with ex-

planations of their designs and purposes. **(Third award for specialized series.)**

GJUROVICH, Rudy, San Jose: Continental and fractional currency; large bills; foreign paper, ineluding Japanese provineial eurrency, circa 1800, and the eomplete current sets of paper money in use in Japan and Formosa; Korean 1000-won notes. **(Third award for paper money.)**

MOHLER, Harry A., Sausalito: Japanese and Portuguese medals and orders. **(Third award for medals.)**

PAYNE, Bruce, Oakland: Modern British, French, and German coins. **(Third award for juniors.)**

LOUNIBOS, Guy, Petaluma: "Crowns Through the Ages." German thalers. **(Third award for juniors.)**

HILL, Roy, San Francisco: "The 'S' Mint in History." Specimens of the first silver coins and $1 gold struck at the mint, with mint photos and other pictures and articles. **(First award for unlisted classification.)**

BLOOM, Clifford H., San Francisco: Gold eoins of many nations.

BRAHAM, M., San Francisco: Peaee dollars; leather depression "money".

BURNS, Spencer, San Francisco: Chinese and Confederate eurrency.

CUTLER, Mrs. Harry, San Francisco: California gold; Kellogg & Co. $50 die set; antique jewelry of gold rush days.

FROST, R. Jack, Berkeley: Cents, nickels, trade dollars.

KAGIN, Art, Des Moines, Iowa: Many U.S. rarities such as gold and silver bars of various sizes and shapes; 1796 proof quarter and half dollar; unique Blaek and Agnell $23 gold; unique note of Union Gold Bank of Oakland; raised edgc 1882 niekel; 1918 Federal Reserve note, $2 on obverse, $1 on reverse, ete. This was a portion of the Kagin reference colleetion.

LISS, C. L., San Francisco: Morgan dollars, 1878-1921.

LODGE, L. G., San Francisco: Flying Eagle and Indian cents.

SCHAFFER, Fred, Kingsburg: A fine Armenian rug, 40 by 160 in., made in a dollar bill design.

SAN BERNARDINO CLUB GIVES CARDS TO CSNA, ANA OFFICERS

The board of direetors of the San Bernardino County Coin Club recently voted to issue membership cards to all officers and direetors of the California State Numismatie Assn. and of the American Numismatie Assn.

Letters enclosing the cards read:

"An ediet by the Board of Directors of the San Bernardino County Coin Club ordered its treasurer to issue membership eards, with all rights, to all offieers of the American Numismatic Association and the California State Numismatie Association.

"Enclosed you will find your membership card for 1954.

"It is the hope of the San Bernardino County Coin Club that you reeeive as much joy and pleasure from this membership as we have received issuing it to you.

Sincerely,
John C. Yribarne, President."

OAKLAND JUNIORS. — Robert Grist was eleeted presidcnt at the fourth meeting of the Junior Coin Colleetors Feb. 11 at the Oakland Boys' Club, 924 20th St. Other offieers named were Kent Schoenenberger, viee-president; George A. Akers, seerctary-treasurer; and Dan Kendall, sergeant-at-arms.

Exhibits: Kent Sehoenenberger, buffalo nickels; Robert Grist, 2-eents, nickel 3-cents, and Mereury dimes; George A. Akers, Jefferson niekels, complete; Tim Kendall, Indian head and Lineoln cents; and Fred and Lowell Oreutt, Lineoln cents.

A photographer from the Oakland Tribune took a pieture of the officers, whieh appeared in the Tribune next day.

Roy Hill, eounselor, and Ed Fogler were speakers.

S. S. Hawley, editor of the **Circulated Proof,** took the members on a tour through aneient lands at their March 18 meeting.

From the Desk of the Secretary-Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

599 DODSON, Capt. O. H., U.S.N. .....Landing Ship Flotilla Two, Little Creek, Va.
597 GOBLE, Denzil R. .....691 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, Calif.
596 GRACE, Mrs. Joan M. .....1008 Alma St., Menlo Park, Calif.
598 MAXWELL, Stanley.....P.O. Box 423, Suisun, Calif.
594 SEKINE, Yasuo.....No. 66, 2 Chome, Naka-Cho, Urawa City, Saitama Pref., Japan

ADDRESS CHANGES

510 DENNIS, Ernest S. .....1039 N. Grevilla, Porterville, Calif.
516 MEYER, George Fred.....3721 French Ave., Sacramento 21, Calif.
348 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB, Mrs. Ernest C. Kessler, Secretary....17848 Foothill Blvd., Fontana, Calif.
589 WEST, John Amos.....P.O. Box 2160, Wichita Falls, Tex.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Cash on hand February 17, 1954		$844.40
Receipts: 1954 dues	$ 48.00	48.00
Total Receipts		$892.40
Disbursements: Postage and supplies	$ 10.00	
Calcoin News	231.96	
Convention (San Francisco)	86.80	$328.76
Cash on hand April 15, 1954		$563.64

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership as of February 17, 1954		367
Additions: New members	4	4
Total		371
Losses: Suspended	1	1
Net membership April 15, 1954		370

Note: 319 members are fully paid up for the year 1954.

R. G. McARTHUR, Secretary

CONVENTION PICTURES, Pages 10 and 11, were taken at the banquet April 24.

In upper left photo, Ross P. Buell, San Francisco Mint superintendent, is introduced. Lesley G. Lodge, PCNS president, and Robert G. McArthur, CSNA secretary-treasurer, applaud.

Upper center photo shows Charles V. Kappen, Calcoin News editor, receiving trophy for "best-in-show" exhibit from Lesley G. Lodge, convention general chairman. Dr. Nathan A. Bowers, CSNA president, appears to be in a meditative mood.

In center photo, Ken Allen, Entertainment committee chairman, brings up the curtain on the evening's program. Mrs. Allen is at the piano.

At lower left, Dr. Bowers introduces John E. Ohls, Awards committee and assistant convention general chairman. Left to right are McArthur, Dr. Bowers, Ohls, Dr. Calvert L. Emmons, Leonel C. Panosh, first vice-president of the American Numismatic Assn., and Dr. J. Hewitt Judd, ANA president. Panosh and Dr. Emmons are CSNA directors and past presidents.

Ralph Mitchell, master of ceremonies, gets off another "hot" one (lower center). Mitchell is a CSNA director and past president, as well as a former ANA vice-president.

Other pictures are of various dinner groups at the banquet.

Who's Who In California Numismatics

JOHN E. OHLS

John Edward Ohls beeame interested in colleeting coins in February, 1946, while a patient in Navy Hospital, Mare Island. A buddy whom he met there gave him some Australian coins and his hobby was under way.

"This gift, plus some United States coins which I had, aroused my interest in numismatics and beeamc the nueleus of my eollection," Ohls says.

John was some time in deciding which phase of collecting to make his specialty. After a few false starts in scries whieh failed to hold his interest, a eoin dealer suggestcd eommemorative eoins. He started building his prcsent colleetion, which consists entirely of eommemoratives. They are his one and only interest.

Besides collecting them, John has written about them for various eoin publications. "Litcrature concerning this partieular field of colleeting is very limited," Ohls says, "so as a rcsult of my study of the eoins, I want to pass along my findings to others who might be interested and might benefit by reading about them."

John's first artiele, "Collceting Commemorative Coins," was published in the Dceember, 1949, **Numismatist.** Subsequent artieles have been "Commemorativc Coins of the World," which appeared in the July, 1950, **Calcoin News,** and "Commemorative Coins of the World," in the December, 1953, **Numismatist.** He now is preparing a eheeklist for publication in **The Numismatist.**

"Germany led all other eountries in the issuance of eommemoratives during the 19th and 20th eenturies with more than 300," Ohls says. More than 50 countries have coined commemoratives during the 20th century, aceording to the speeialist.

John was born July 24, 1909, at Flint, Mieh., the son of Albert K. and Ethel Alice Ohls. He attended grammar sehool at Owosso, Mieh., and high sehool at Lansing, Mieh. Night sehool courses eompleted his edueation.

He was married May 24, 1947, to Miss Dolly Ann Jurieh.

Ohls presently is employed as electrieian by the Reereation and Park Dept., City and County of San Franciseo, and has been for the past 2½ years. During 1945 and 1946, he was an elcctrieian's mate in the Navy.

The Ohls have one other hobby, gardening.

John has in the neighborhood of 700 eoins in his colleetion. Of these, about 60 are gold and a like number, bronze. The remainder are silver. He says he has no favorite coin. His collection is housed in 2 x 2 envelopes, filed alphabetically by country.

His numismatie library consists of many monthly and bi-monthly publieations and of most rcecntly published books. His file of **The Numismatist** dates from 1893. At present he is attempting to eomplete his files of **Calcoin News** and of the **San Diego Numismatic Society Bulletin,** a

(Continued on Page Nine)

San Francisco Mint History

By ROY HILL, *San Francisco*

(Continued from the March Issue)

During the construction period of the second mint building, an important Act was passed by Congress Feb. 12, 1873, whereby the organization of the "S" mint service and coinage was completely revised. Before this Act, the United States had its one main mint, the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia, and other mints were "U.S. Branch Mints" in their respective localities.

This now was changed so that the U.S. branch mints became U.S. mints in their respective localities, equal in responsibilities and accountable not to the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia as in the past, but along with the Philadelphia mint, accountable to the Director of Mints at the Bureau of Mints in Washington, D.C.

This Act became effective April 1, 1873. On that day the United States Branch Mint in California officially took its present identity as the United States Mint at San Francisco. Thus, any coins struck April 1, 1873, or later, are from U.S. Mints, not from branch mints.

This same Act of Feb. 12, 1873, also did us out of our regular silver dollar and for that reason it sometimes is called "The crime of 1873". The mint report for the period ending June 30, 1873, reports no trade dollars yet struck, but later that year nearly ¾-million were made. San Francisco, the gateway to the Orient, whence the coins were intended for purposes of trade to replace the regular silver dollars, which were being "given the treatment", produced huge quantities of trade dollars.

The new building no sooner was opened to the public early in November, 1874, than royalty from the Hawaiian Islands, King Kalakaua I and his entourage, sailed into San Francisco Bay, Nov. 28, 1874.

Upon his visit to the new mint building Dec. 4, he was given a grand tour and he and each member of his party received trade dollars as they came off the press before their very eyes. Comment at the time was to the effect that his little kingdom perhaps never would have its own coinage.

The trade dollar had a special press, the "Ajax", designed for its particular requirements. These presses were said to be worth a dollar a pound, and each weighed 18,000 pounds. This figure is interesting when it is compared to the cost of an ordinary press built in Carson City in 1878 by Virginia and Truckee Shops for $995. This very same Carson City Mint press may be seen today in operation at the San Francisco Mint, where it was brought and repaired for use some 20 years ago.

The "S" mint was the location for a fine collection of coins which it had

(Continued on Page Twelve)

John E. Ohls

(Continued from Page Eight)

task he has accomplished with files of the **PCNS Bulletin** and **The Circulated Proof.** Mr. and Mrs. Ohls do their own bookbinding.

John joined the ANA (No. 12836) in April, 1946; the PCNS (No. 56), June, 1946; the East Bay Coin Club (No. 171), January, 1950; and the CSNA (No. 165), January, 1949. He was a member of the PCNS board of governors in 1951 and 1952, and has been vice-president since January, 1953.

He was chairman of the Awards committee for the California State Numismatic Assn. at both its October, 1953, Los Angeles and its April, 1954, San Francisco conventions. He also was assistant general chairman and publicity chairman for the San Francisco convention.

He won a third exhibit award at the 1949 ANA convention in San Francisco; a second award at the 1950 ANA convention, Milwaukee; and a second award at the CSNA convention, Santa Rosa.

Besides coin organizations, Ohls is a member of the Civil Service Association of San Francisco and of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

- Photography By
M & R Photo Service
San Francisco

San Francisco Mint History

(Continued from Page Nine)

on display for approximately 40 years. The collection was that of the Society of California Pioneers and previously had been kept at the organization's headquarters. While visiting in San Francisco, Dr. H. R. Linderman had seen the collection and was so interested in it that he suggested it be housed in more secure quarters. His suggestion led to conferences with O. H. LaGrange, mint superintendent, who arranged for the collection to go on exhibit in the new mint building, where it remained until it was sold.

Apparently the collection contained few important "S" mint coins, for not many are listed in the mint catalog. However, it does mention an 1804 silver dollar which the late Farran Zerbe described in an article in the August, 1906, issue of **The Numismatist** as " . . . a counterfeit or fake."

The collection, which had been gathered by a Dr. Charles Spiers during the years since 1814 when he was a boy of 14, remained intact during the 1906 earthquake and fire. It was viewed by ANA delegates to San Francisco in 1915 and later was sold. The buyer realized as much from three coins alone as he had paid for the entire collection. Further details of this collection are available in the **PCNS Bulletin** for September, 1950.

The "Crime of 1873" was corrected in 1878 when silver dollar coinage was resumed. Superintendent H. L. Dodge gave a "coming out party" for the return of the standard silver dollar and invited newspapermen to witness a special minting April 17.

The guest of honor was former Governor F. F. Low. Coiner Olcott, as master of ceremonies, received the first coin, which was struck on a planchet placed in the press by Superintendent Dodge. The die cracked after 1000 coins had been struck and operations ceased. The first 1000 silver dollars were made at the superintendent's own expense. Regular coinage began the following day and continued until a supply of bullion worth $2½-million was exhausted.

King Kalakaua I returned in 1883 to reverse the casual comment made during his 1874 visit. While on a European tour, he had found mint officials interested in producing coins for Hawaii, but their samples had not gained favor in the Islands. It remained for Claus Spreckles, sugar tycoon, to complete arrangements for coinage based on regular United States coinage content.

Coinage began Nov. 17, 1883, but was not completed until June, 1884. All of these coins bear the likeness of the King and the date 1883 on the obverse side. The three coins of larger value show the royal coat of arms and the value while the one of smallest denomination, the dime, bears the value in a wreath on the reverse side. The San Francisco Mint had been authorized to coin the sum of $1-million.

It was broken down as follows: Dollar, 500,000 ($500,000); half-dollar, 700,000 ($350,000); quarter-dollar, 500,000 ($125,000); and dime, 250,000 ($25,000). Later, 455,329 of the silver dollars were melted.

The making of minor coins by other than the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia was not permitted until after passage of a special Act by Congress in 1905. The San Francisco Mint did not produce small cent pieces until three years later in 1908 or the nickel until 1912. Economic factors finally broke through the California reluctance to express values in anything less than quarters.

The survival of the San Francisco Mint, with its contents intact, from the earthquake and fire of 1906, seems a miracle considering that blocks of buildings surrounding it were devastated. It is explained by the fact that a private water supply system for the mint had been completed only three weeks before. Artesian wells in the center court were put into use during the catastrophe under the personal supervision of Superintendent Frank A. Leach.

He and his heroic mint employees reported that pieces of the outside walls broke off with a noise similar to artillery fire and that glass windows, which had not been cracked or broken in the quakes, simply melted in the intense heat. What outward damage was done was quickly repaired and the mint be-

came the financial headquarters for the city, since banks were paralyzed.

Great shipments of gold were sent from San Francisco to Denver in 1908. The San Francisco Mint had not been designed for storage purposes and gold valued at approximately $270-million and silver worth approximately $60.000 had accumulated through the years. Leach, who was then director of all mints, contracted with Wells-Fargo Co. to ship the gold to Denver at a cost of approximately $300,000.

Shipments began Aug. 15, 1908, and were completed by Dec. 31 of that year. The entire amount was moved without loss since the transfer was made as inconspicuously as possible. The gold was carried in horse cars. This undertaking was momentous in its day, although it was topped in 1934 when nearly $1½-billion was shipped from the California mint to Denver.

The striking of commemorative coins at the San Francisco Mint for the Panama Pacific International Exposition of 1915 was an outstanding event in U.S. coinage because this set contains the only $50 gold pieces ever made for public release. The first coins were struck with great ceremony on June 15, just 10 days before the founding of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society.

Many arrangements had to be made for production of the issue, which had been authorized Jan. 15. New designs were executed, special tools and press fittings were made and a medal stamping hydraulic press which weighed 14 tons and had a 450-ton striking power was brought to the coast from Philadelphia.

The coins issued at that time are more fully described in **The Numismatist** of 1915 in the mint report for the fiscal year of 1914 which ended June 30, 1915. The table below was published in the **PCNS Numismatic Bulletin** of June, 1948.

Progress in modern times and obsolescence of the building which had been in use since 1874, dictated the need for a new building. The third home for the "S" mint was constructed in 1935-37 on Duboce Ave. at Buchanan and Market Sts., high upon a formidable looking rock pile. The cornerstone was laid in 1935 and the building was formally dedicated May 15, 1937.

Although the new structure was supposed to be impregnable, two boys, Paul Francis and William Gallagher, proved it otherwise by entering the building through side windows shortly after it was opened. Thereafter bars were placed on each window and a light was kept burning at night.

Although some hectic days have made up a part of the life of the 100-year-old San Francisco Mint, it has been a great money factory, and for a time boasted of being the largest and finest mint in the world. Many times, its production far exceeded that of any other U.S. mint and the gold and silver it had in storage at one time exceeded that of Philadelphia and Denver combined. However, time and the security needs of the country have altered, so that the vast treasures once housed at

COINS STRUCK FOR PANAMA PACIFIC EXPOSITION

1915	$50 Oct.	$50 Round	$2.50	$1	50-Cent
May				4,000	12,000
June	609		10,017	1,500	48,000
July		409		19,534	
August	900	1,101			
Totals	1,509	1,510	10,017	25,034	60,000
For Assay	9	10	17	34	34
Available to Public	1,500	1,500	10,000	25,000	59,966
Sold	646	483	6,750	25,000	27,100
Destroyed by Mint	854	1,017	3,250	None	32,866

San Francisco have been transferred to Denver.

Production at the San Francisco Mint varies according to economic needs and to whether it is making coins for foreign countries as it has done for many years.

This story of the mint is necessarily incomplete in many details. I will conclude by naming the men who have been its superintendent. They are Louis Aiken Birdsall, 1853-55; Peter R. Lott, 1855-56; Robert J. Stevens, 1856-57; C. H. Hemstead, 1857-63; Robert B. Swain, 1863-69; Gen. O. H. LaGrange, 1869-78; H. L. Dodge, 1878-82; E. F. Burton, 1882-85; I. Lawton, 1885-89; W. H. Dimond, 1889-93; J. Daggett, 1893-97; Frank A. Leach, 1897-1907; E. F. Sweeney, 1907-12; Frank A. Leach, 1912-13; T. W. H. Shanahan, 1913-21; M. J. Kelly, 1921-33; Peter J. Haggerty, 1933-45; Neil H. Callahan, 1945-48; George B. Gillin, 1948-52; John P. McEnery, 1952-53; and Ross P. Buell, 1953.

THE END

CALCOIN NEWS

Official Publication of the California State Numismatic Association

Editor.....Charles V. Kappen
2201 Peachtree Lane, San Jose 26, Calif.

OFFICERS

President.....Dr. N. A. Bowers
184 Tuscaloosa Ave., Atherton, Calif.
Vice-President.....Dr. C. Glenn Curtis
418 S. Pomona St., Brea, Calif.
Secretary-Treasurer.....Robert G. McArthur
2419 Humboldt Ave., Oakland 1, Calif.
Librarian-Curator.....Stewart J. Bingham
270 E. San Jose Ave., Claremont, Calif.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leonel C. Panosh, Dr. Calvert L. Emmons, Herbert M. Bergen, Charles V. Kappen, Ralph A. Mitchell

CSNA members receive *Calcoin News* without additional cost beyond their annual dues of $2.

Vol. VIII MAY, 1954 No. 3

LEAVE FOR WEST INDIES

Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Hernandez, El Cajon, left May 1 for the East. They plan a full year's travel and vacation in the East and in the West Indies.

Mrs. Lucy Holcombe Pickens was the only woman to have her portrait put on Confederate currency. Mrs. Pickens' portrait was used on issues of both $1 and $100 bills.

* * *

Idaho leads all States in the production of silver.

THE UNITED STATES MINT at San Francisco, Duboce Ave. at Buchanan and Market Sts,

California Club News, Views, and Whos

EAST BAY COIN CLUB, Oakland. — President Gilbert D. Eaton welcomed 63 members and 36 guests present at the March 12 meeting in Jenny Lind Hall.

John Ohls spoke briefly of the coming CSNA convention in San Francisco, and said highlights will be two S.F. Mint tours and visits to the largest flower house in San Francisco.

Frank Galvin made a progress report on a committee selection of the person who has done most for the club during the past year. Presentation of an appropriate award will be made at the April meeting.

Walt Ritchie, speaking on National Coin Week, said the Berkeley Public Library and the Thrift Federal Savings & Loan Society have asked for displays, both wishing to follow the United Nations theme. Members were urged to display material in their neighborhood shopping centers to advertise the coin hobby.

S. S. Hawley announced the forthcoming auction of the late L. Forrer's library of numismatic books by Spink and Son, London. He also introduced a group of boys from Garfield Junior High School, Berkeley, who are interested in forming a junior coin club.

Ed Fogler was given a vote of thanks for pinch-hitting for the corresponding secretary in mailing the **Circulated Proof** this month. S. S. Hawley also was accorded a vote of thanks for his fine job as editor of the **Proof.**

Daniel J. Redmond, vice-president and program chairman, introduced the following members, who gave brief talks.

S. S. Hawley spoke on his specialty, ancient Greek coins. Besides several examples of coins of Greek colonies in Southern Italy, he exhibited a map showing locations of the issuing cities.

A. W. Ritchie spoke on Chinese currency. He showed examples of early currency, as well as modern notes. Literature on the subject also was displayed.

John E. Ohls gave a brief talk on his start as a collector and of his final choice of commemorative coins of the world as a specialty. He is in process of compiling a catalog of commemoratives.

Ken Allen briefly discussed "Why Collect?" Pioneer gold being his specialty, he spoke on that subject, explaining the reason why so many pieces are of such crude design and workmanship.

Exhibits: Ken Allen, reverse sides of several large notes; Earl Parker, 1876 proof set and 1849 Norris Grieg & Norris $5 gold piece; R. C. Patterson, U.S. type set in proof, mounted in plastic; Ed Fogler, Irish set; A. G. K. Jakobsen, loose-leaf binder with dealer quotations from coin magazines for prices of coins in all conditions.

John Ohls, commemorative coins of the world, showing the wearing of eye glasses; R. G. McArthur, 13 so-called dollars and booklet; Dan Redmond, presidential medals; Rudy Gjurovich, porcelain coins; Victor Madden, Japanese coins.

Sidney Haas, Chaldean cuneiform inscribed clay tablets such as were used for currency 4000 years ago in the City of Ur of the Chaldees, 2200 B.C. (second Babylonion empire); Jack Frost, complete set of trade dollars; Frank Galvin, U.S. large-size currency; Roy Hill, auction catalog of a sale conducted in San Francisco in 1866; Clifford Bloom, 1654 gold ducat of Mainz.

Ed Fogler presented a birthday cake to Fred Monteagle.

Earl Parker auctioned 46 lots, including three which were donated for the coffee fund.

Coffee and cake were served by Pearl Holm and Erich Werling.

—Don T. Thrall, Secretary.

* * *

LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB. — The 313th meeting was held April 2, with President W. R. Fanning presiding. Members and guests present totaled 108. Four applicants were elected to membership: Mrs. R. G. Snyder, Mrs. Stiles B. Parks, Kenneth J. Older, and Lester M. Wollard, president of the San Fernando Valley Coin Club.

The new By-Laws, announced at

the Mareh meeting, were voted upon after appropriate discussion and passed without a dissenting vote. Since these By-Laws provide for two additional members of the Board of Governors, elections were then conducted. I. Newton Sanders and Earl Glen Whitehead were the successful nominees, and will serve on the Board for the remainder of 1954.

Two display cases, made for the club by William E. Happel, were presented by him for use at meetings and for other exhibits arranged by the club. This donation, representing much time and effort on the part of Happel, is one of the most significant tangible contributions the club has received.

Exhibits: Hunter R. Hilton, set of uncirculated Liberty head silver dollars (1878-1921D) in red and white plastic holders; Dr. Charles Harbeek, Roman bronze coins from Augustus through Constantine the Great.

After a refreshment period, door prizes were awarded and the regular auction was conducted by George Bennett.

* * *

The 312th meeting was held March 5, with 104 members and guests present. A gavel with suitably engraved silver band was presented to our retiring president, George Bennett, in recognition of his service to the club during 1953.

It was announced that new By-Laws, to replace those written 25 years ago, had been drawn up by the secretary, and had been tentatively approved by the board of governors, pending final ratification by the membership. Copies of the proposed By-Laws were distributed with the advice that they were to be revised and voted upon at the next regular meeting.

The program feature was a talk by M. H. Bolender, illustrated by slides, on die varieties of the early silver dollars. Bolender, whose book on the subject is well known, had assembled the most complete collection of silver dollars known, and thus spoke from extensive experience. Especially noteworthy is the fact that our speaker has assembled and catalogued 183 die varieties minted prior to 1804.

A. Chaffin Barlow was voted into membership.

Dr. Charles Harbeek exhibited a group of coins of the Julian succession, issued at the inception of the Roman Empire.

After an interval devoted to refreshments and awarding of door prizes, an auction was conducted by George Bennett.

Officers for 1954 are W. R. Fanning, president; Robert E. Williams, vice-president; Jay D. Dare, treasurer; and William H. Spence, secretary.

—William H. Spence, Secretary.

* * *

ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB, Brea. — Ninety-five members and guests attended the 189th regular monthly meeting Mareh 24 at the Woman's Clubhouse, Brea. Four new members were admitted to the club. Harry Davidson presided.

Winn Osborne, program chairman, introdueed Wayne Higbee, past president of the San Diego Numismatie Society, who spoke on "U.S. Commemorative Coins". Higbee pointed out that the issuanee of these coins in the last two decades degenerated into a politieal raeket, many of the issues representing unworthy subjects.

Furthermore, he said, a large part of these coins were bought by dealers who were interested only in the profits to be made. The Eisenhower administration has vetoed bills introduced to strike more commemorative coins.

The speaker suggested that the ANA and regional and local numismatie organizations undertake to revive the issuanee of eommemorative coins on a sound basis so that evils of the past would be eliminated.

Dr. C. Glenn Curtis announced that a Luau would be held at the home of T. Kirk Hill in La Verne June 20 for the benefit of the fall convention of the California State Numismatic Assn. The convention, which will be sponsored by the Orange County Coin Club, will be held at the Old Mission Inn, Riverside.

Dr. Calvert Emmons reminded members of the spring CSNA convention in San Francisco April 22-25. James Anderson, vice-president of the San Diego Numismatie Society, brought greetings from members of that organization.

The meeting was recessed for re-

freshments, after which Joe Steele conducted the auction.

—Winn Osborne, Acting Secretary.

* * *

Bryan Burke, San Bernardino, spoke on "The Artistic Periods of Ancient Coins" at the Feb. 24 meeting, before an audience of 93 members and guests. Ten of the 18 guests became members and two former members were reinstated. President Harry Davidson presided.

Commencing with the first period, 700 to 400 B.C., in which coins portray animals and agricultural products, Burke traced ancient coins through eight distinct periods, ending with the decline and fall of the Roman Empire.

He pointed out that the decline of Greece and Rome coincided with the decline in the artistic appearance of their coinage. Artists skilled in the design of coins moved from Greece to Syracuse and Sicily when Greece declined as a nation. Roman coinage then came into its most artistic period, in which portraits of rulers became the vogue.

As Roman coins became degraded, their artistic design also became poorer. The last coins of the Roman Empire are the least attractive of all coins of this great nation. In closing, the speaker noted that many designs and features that were first used on ancient coins have been adopted by coin designers in succeeding centuries, even to this day.

The audience was invited to see the speaker's collection of coins on display at the meeting, by which he illustrated his talk. He was introduced by Winn Osborne, program chairman.

Following refreshments, Joe Steele conducted the auction.

* * *

Jan. 27 marked the 187th regular monthly club meeting and the 15th annual banquet of the Orange County Coin Club. Dinner was served promptly at 7:30 p.m. by the usual crew of members to a record crowd of 145 members and guests, including Dr. and Mrs. N. A. Bowers, who came all the way from Northern California to be with us.

Following a rousing welcome and introduction of all the visiting top numismatists, Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, banquet chairman, turned the meeting over to the master of ceremonies, Ralph "Curly" Mitchell, the noted odd and curious collector from Palo Alto.

Gail Moser and her sister excited the audience with snappy music on their accordions. After this, the crowd was soothed by the Melodeers under direction of G. Willard Bassett.

With the stage thus set, Loyd Prante, speaker of the evening, came forward to delight the diners with "Eat Your Apple Now", with which he alternately kept his audience in high humor and in serious thought. The essence of his talk was that it is never wise to put off until tomorrow what you can do today, for tomorrow may never come.

A dozen numismatic prizes provided by coin dealer friends were then awarded to the holders of lucky numbers. Prizes ranged from proof sets to California gold pieces.

Installation of officers for 1954 was next on the program. Under the caption, 'The Officers Get Taken In', J. Howard Robinson, installer, likened the new officers to the Dollar a Year men who served their country in time of great need. He deemed it a privilege to serve the club and proceeded to assess each officer a dollar for the current year, and those who have been in office longer, a dollar for each year of tenure.

The 50-odd dollars he thus extracted was given to the club to start a fund for the CSNA convention which the club is sponsoring Oct. 7-10 in Riverside. None of the old officeholders was heard to say he would stand for reelection at the end of this year.

The following are the members who were thus victimized:

Harry Davidson, president; Winn Osborne, vice-president; Lowell Wood, treasurer; Herbert M. Bergen, secretary; Dr. C. Glenn Curtis, librarian; John Haldiman Jr., Dr. C. L. Emmons, Hy Spitz, Joseph J. Courreges, and John Stoppelwerth, directors.

The retiring president, John Haldiman Jr., then gave his final speech, entitled "So Long John", followed by the new president, Harry Davidson's "Hope for the Best".

—Herbert M. Bergen, Secretary.

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, San Francisco.—Dr. John Edley Fitzwater, past president of the Archaeological Society of California, addressed the 457th meeting of the society March 31 on "The Archaeological Aspect of Ancient Coins". Sixty persons, including 15 guests, assembled in The Palace Hotel for the meeting.

Dr. Fitzwater's talk was enhanced by use of an opaque projector to illustrate various stages of preservation of coins he had found in excavations. He gave a resume of ancient coin dating and told of coin valuations from an archaeologist's standpoint.

Photographing of coins and the preparation of coin casts and moulds also were discussed. Dr. Fitzwater based his talk on a paper which he had presented before the Archaeological Society in Oakland in August, 1937.

Exhibits: Ken. P. Allen, complete type set of U.S. fractional and postage currency; Clifford Bloom, gold aureus of Rome; E. C. Brandeberry, Albany, Ore., leather money; James Crisp, coronation medals; Walter Gerth, $20 note of First National Bank, Oakland, which he found under three layers of linoleum.

Roy Hill, "S" Mint historical pictures in honor of the 100th anniversary of its operations April 3; George Hodges, 1859S silver dollar and special meeting notice of the San Jose Coin Club for the "S" Mint anniversary; F. E. Howard, Hawaiian silver coins of 1883 and the copper token of 1847; Kurt E. Loret, book on Greek coins printed in Germany.

Earl A. Parker, siege of Mafking paper note issued during Boer War; John E. Ohls, copper 8-doubles, Guernsey and a silver henry, Netherlands; David L. Redfield, coins of Switzerland; Paul D. Snedaker, "wolf coin", commemorating Romulus and Remus, legendary founders of Rome; and Nicholas A. Slobodchikoff, coin books.

* * *

The society's 456th meeting drew an attendance of 62, including 16 visitors, a record crowd for the year. Exhibits were made by 23 members. President Les Lodge presided.

Plans for the CSNA convention occupied the business portion of the meeting. Because of its convention activity, the society made no particular plans for National Coin Week.

A. G. K. Jakobsen suggested that the Equitable Life Assurance Society be contacted regarding placing of an historical plaque on their new building now being erected at the corner of Montgomery and Sutter Sts., site of one of California's pioneer gold minters, Kellogg & Co.

A lively raffle added to ILOW convention funds. Earl A. Parker conducted the auction.

Exhibitors: Ken P. Allen, Clifford H. Bloom, H. F. Bowker, Al Crites, Frank X. Galvin, Edward Gans, Rudy Gjurovich, Sidney J. Haas, Roy Hill, George F. Hodges, F. E. Howard, A. G. K. Jakobsen, Charles V. Kappen, L. G. Lodge, Kurt E. Loret, Barney O'Hea, John E. Ohls, Earl A. Parker, Robert C. Patterson, David L. Redfield, Carol Snedaker, Paul D. Snedaker, and Erich Werling.

The PCNS meets the last Wednesday of each month at The Palace Hotel, San Francisco, and visitors are most cordially welcome to these meetings. The summer will see no break in meetings, so check your calendar for May 26, June 30 and July 28. —Roy Hill, Secretary.

* * *

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB.—Talks by President John C. Yribarne and A. B. Coon highlighted the 69th regular club meeting March 18 at 631 "G" St., San Bernardino. Thirty-three members and guests were present. Two new members were welcomed into the club.

Yribarne talked on "Biblical Coins"; Coon, on "Rarities in Coins".

Favorable committee reports were made on plans for displays at the National Orange Show to be held in San Bernardino March 25 - April 4. Plans for National Coin Week displays were discussed. Dr. Calvert Emmons urged members to attend the California State Numismatic Assn. convention in San Francisco April 22-25.

Fred Draper read a bulletin issued by the Federal Reserve which states that gold coins which are turned in to banks may be procured legally by coin collectors.

During a social period, refreshments were served and door prizes were drawn. An auction of more than 75 lots was conducted by Herb Feinberg.

* * *

The 68th meeting, held Feb. 18, was attended by 37 members and guests. Three new members were admitted to the club.

In the absence of President John Yribarne, Dale Howard, vice-president, conducted the meeting. Most of the business consisted of planning for National Coin Week. Members will make displays in many San Bernardino County towns. Plans are completed for showings in San Bernardino, Redlands, Ontario, and Upland. Charles G. Colver exhibited many proof sets, including complete proof sets of gold coins, and explained his display.

Club members enjoyed a social time and refreshments, then were entertained by the showing of ANA slide series No. 18, "Odds and Ends of Coinage, Spurious and Real". The commentary was read by Fred W. Coops Jr.

Following a door prize drawing, Herb Feinberg conducted a lively auction. —Mrs. Ernest C. Kessler, Secretary.

* * *

SAN JOSE COIN CLUB. — Ross P. Buell, superintendent of the U.S. Mint at San Francisco, addressed the 90th meeting of the San Jose Coin Club April 5 at the Hotel DeAnza. Thirty-six members and guests were present.

Buell said mint location is determined by availability of precious metal and demand for coins. Such demand just recently has begun to slacken at the S.F. Mint, the superintendent said, adding that at one time bank messengers waited each morning for the mint to open to replenish their banks' supply of change.

For this reason the dies, sent from Philadelphia, were used for a longer than normal period. The results are especially noticeable in cents of recent issue. Superintendent Buell discussed the preparation of metal and the coining process, and told of the installation of new equipment which will result in more uniformity of coins.

No 1954 coins have as yet been released at the S.F. Mint, Buell said.

Silver dollars, he explained, are a slow-moving item. Sacks of dollars stored in the mint are not dated, as the quantity is the mint's only concern. Buell said there is more silver in the S.F. Mint than at any other location in the U.S.

Foreign coins minted in the U.S. are first bid upon by the three mints, the lowest bid receiving the order.

All gold and silver may be turned in to the mints, but gold must be at least 200 fine. Gold coins cause the Government more trouble than the federal income tax as the law is full of loopholes and is hard to administer, the speaker said. Gold coins may be held if they had a premium value in 1933.

The location at which gold is mined may be determined by its c o l o r. Alaskan gold is dark in color, or black; that mined in Grass Valley is light.

Superintendent Buell invited club members to visit the mint, stating that regular tours are held Monday through Friday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The speaker was introduced by Roy Hill.

Exhibits and brief talks were made by Ralph Mitchell, coin glass dish; William H. Stones, 60 large cents; Roy Hill, early S.F. Mint pictures, the first issue of all "S" Mint silver coins and gold dollar; Vincent Guarnera, coins of the Italian States.

Following a recess, "Curly" Mitchell disposed of 39 lots in a highly entertaining manner.

Prof. Charles V. Kappen will speak May 3 on "Biblical Coins."

* * *

Frank X. Galvin, Oakland, spoke at the March meeting on "St. Gaudens Coinage." Thirty-four members and guests attended.

Galvin's excellent talk presented numerous little-known insights on St. Gaudens and President Theodore Roosevelt. Opposition to the new designs by St. Gaudens and the ensuing controversy were particularly interesting. George Hodges introduced the speaker.

President Austen Warburton's appointments of committee chairmen, made at the Feb. 24 board meeting,

were announced. Roy Hill is sergeant-at-arms; George Hodges, publicity chairman; and Syl Tully Jr., auction chairman.

George Kohl talked briefly of new catalogs and Seaby's books. Roy Hill and Les Lodge urged attendance at the CSNA convention.

Exhibits: Vincent Guarnera, coins of the world; Earl Parker, books by Seaby and Kann, 1890 proof set, Peruvian 100 sols, Kellogg $20 gold piece, and a 10-shilling note of the Boer War; Les Lodge, set of uncirculated Peace dollars; George Hodges, gambling token and Tyrol thaler; Syl Tully Jr., English tokens; Frank Monteagle, Carson City dies and early notes; Roy Hill, California gold souvenirs of 25 cents, 50 cents and $1 denominations.

Earl Parker and Ralph Mitchell alternated as auctioneers.

—William R. Weber, Secretary

In July Issue

CLEOPATRA:

A NUMISMATIC ROMANCE

By Earle K. Stanton

Los Angeles

Auction Sale Sets New Records

Leo A. Young and Earl A. Parker report that they are highly pleased with results of the auction sale, and believe the convention itself to be one of the most successful in CSNA history.

A very large and active crowd was present. Art Kagin of Hollinbeck's, Ben Stack of the Imperial Coin Co., and Norman Schultz of Salt Lake City were among out-of-state dealers present. Dr. J. Hewitt Judd, president of the American Numismatic Assn., was convention guest of honor.

Young and Parker, who conducted the auction sale, report many new all-time records set on coin sales and prices. On 2373 lots offered, there were 767 mail and 117 floor bidders. Following are some of the outstanding prices obtained:

Lot No.		
48	Hawaiian B.U. 50c	$ 70.00
150	1936 Proof Set	67.00
288	1796 10c EF	102.00
352	Commem. Gold Set	365.00
484	1894-O 10c B.U.	55.00
486	1895-O 10c Unc.	211.00
489	1896-O 10c Unc.	82.50
492	1897-O 10c B.U.	65.00
493	1897-S 10c Unc.	40.00
498	1899-O 10c Unc.	34.00
501	1900-O 10c Unc.	38.00
505	1901-S 10c Unc.	167.50
508	1902-S 10c Unc.	35.00
511	1903-S 10c Unc.	45.00
599	1919-S 50c A.U.	160.00
600	1920-D 50c E.F.	42.60
701	1856 F.E. 1c A.U.	192.00
795	1796 25c VG-F	95.00
827	1901-S 25c F-VF	105.00
897	1796 50c Fair	170.00
931	1917-S Obv. 50c Unc. w/abrasions	180.00
947	1836-C Gob. $1 EF	$139.00
1059	1938 Boone Set Unc.	115.00
1095	1914 Proof Set 5 pcs.	205.00
1101	1860 Obv. 59, Rev. 60 ½ Dime Unc.	160.00
1117	1871CC 25c VF	165.00
1120	1794 $1 G-VG	350.50
1228	1895 $1 w/hairlines and abrasions	217.50
1308	1916 25c Unc. S. L.	120.00
1503	1867 w/rays 5c Proof	310.00
1525	Norse Medal in Gold 240 gr. VF	95.00
1532	Jap. Ansei Trade Dol.	93.50
1534	Gold Stater Alex. F-VF..	78.00
1540	Aes Grave	46.00
1560	1851 Slug Gold VG	490.00
1570	Set Ind. 2½ Gold VF	136.00
1581	1795 $5 Gold Abt. F	92.00
1590	$10 Gold A.U.	191.00

Inquiries are invited concerning consignments for the fall auction sale. Fully paid-up CSNA members will be accorded a special consignment rate. Address correspondence to Leo A. Young, P.O. Box 115, Lockeford, Calif.